



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

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**FORMER LEHMAN BROTHERS BROKER PLEADS GUILTY**  
**TO BANK AND WIRE FRAUD CHARGES**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that CONSUELO MARQUEZ, a former investment representative with Lehman Brothers, has pleaded guilty to participating in a fraudulent loan scheme while employed at the New York investment house.

MARQUEZ was charged in a sixteen-count indictment with conspiracy to commit bank and wire fraud, and fifteen separate instances of wire fraud. The Indictment charged that while employed at Lehman Brothers, Inc.'s ("Lehman") New York office, MARQUEZ engaged in a scheme with a trust officer of Bank One - Arizona ("Bank One") to use Bank One clients' funds without their knowledge or consent as collateral to obtain fraudulent loans from Lehman's Global Finance division. Once the loans were disbursed, MARQUEZ and the Bank One officer diverted the loan funds to accounts at Lehman managed by MARQUEZ. One of the Lehman accounts used by MARQUEZ to hold the fraudulent loans was opened in the name of a fictitious Mexican national, fabricated

by MARQUEZ and the Bank One officer for the purposes of the scheme; this allowed MARQUEZ to control the fraudulent loan proceeds in the account without risking discovery by a true Lehman client. After depositing the loan proceeds in these Lehman accounts, MARQUEZ used them to invest in securities, and divided the profits, totaling hundreds of thousands of dollars, between the Bank One officer and herself. The Government alleges that MARQUEZ's scheme resulted in losses of at least \$350,000 to Bank One and its clients.

MARQUEZ admitted to all sixteen counts in the Indictment before the Honorable NAOMI REICE BUCHWALD in Manhattan Federal Court today.

MARQUEZ faces a maximum sentence of five years' imprisonment on the conspiracy charge, and 30 years' imprisonment on each of the fifteen wire fraud counts. MARQUEZ also faces a maximum fine on each count of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss from the offense, and forfeiture of the illegally derived funds. The sentence will be determined by Judge BUCHWALD after a hearing, which has not yet been scheduled.

MARQUEZ also faces trial on separate charges that she laundered millions of dollars in narcotics proceeds through Lehman accounts for the former governor of the Mexican state of Quintana Roo. According to the money laundering indictment, the former governor provided the state's protection and support to a

notorious Mexican drug cartel that transported hundreds of tons of cocaine into the United States. MARQUEZ's trial on the money laundering charges has not yet been scheduled.

The charges against MARQUEZ are being prosecuted by the Office's International Narcotics Trafficking Unit, which handles prosecutions of major international narcotics and money laundering organizations. The Office is being assisted by the New York Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Strike Force, which is comprised of agents and officers of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Internal Revenue Service. Mr. KELLEY praised the investigative efforts of the Strike Force, and thanked the Mexican Attorney General's Office and Lehman for their continued cooperation in the investigation.

Assistant United States Attorneys RICHARD SULLIVAN, ANIRUDH BANSAL and LAUREN GOLDBERG are in charge of the prosecution.

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